

9-18-2017

# Current, September 18, 2017

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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## Recommended Citation

University of Missouri-St. Louis, "Current, September 18, 2017" (2017). *Current (2010s)*. 271.  
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### Stockley Found Not-Guilty

AUBREY BYRON  
NEWS EDITOR

A FORMER St. Louis police officer, Jason Stockley, was found not guilty of first degree murder on September 15 for the 2011 shooting death of Anthony Smith. Stockley waived his right to a jury of his peers and the trial was presided over by St. Louis Circuit Judge Tim Wilson. Judge Wilson cited reasonable doubt in his statement while delivering the verdict.

In response to the verdict, protests have erupted in Downtown St. Louis and Central West End neighborhoods. Many businesses in the area closed early and sent employees home. Protests remained largely peaceful as of Friday. However police and protesters have reported the use of mace on the crowds.

A woman with a milk-stained face being interviewed by Now This recalled, "We were holding our ground. We were peacefully protesting...And they maced us." Milk is commonly used to neutralize the burning side effects of mace and tear gas.

Several local politicians attended the Friday protests, including state representatives Bruce Franks Jr. and Peter Merideth, Alderwoman Megan-Ellyia Green, and Congressman Lacy Clay. In an interview in front of the protests, Clay expressed "absolute outrage" at the case.

The tone of the protests turned less peaceful on Friday night, as demonstrators marched in the Central West End. Police confirmed on Twitter that protesters gathered in front of Mayor Lyda Krewson's Central West End home for some time. A window was vandalized before po-

lice presence forced protesters to disburse. Videos streamed on Facebook Live showed police deploying tear gas and shooting rubber bullets to clear the area.

Governor Eric Greitens made the decision to deploy the National Guard midday Friday. He gave the following statement: "We know this verdict causes pain for many people. We have been in touch with city and county officials, and the State of Missouri will continue to assist them. I'm committed to protecting everyone's constitutional right to protest peacefully, while also protecting people's lives, homes, and communities. For anyone who protests, please do so peacefully."

Many local officials echoed the call for peaceful demonstrations, such as St. Louis Mayor Lyda Krewson. State Representative Michael Butler, in contrast, articulated the protesters' frustration in his statement:

"This system and all the politicians calling for peace are ignoring the pain this verdict causes our communities. Anthony Lamar Smith is dead from a violent act and you want us to be peaceful? You want us to not feel anger? The very people paid to protect us are killing us, paid to make peace are perpetuating violence, and we are supposed to be peaceful?" He later added, "We will be non-violent but we will not settle on peace. No justice. No peace." State Representative Butler is the House Minority Caucus Chairman.

Upon delivering the verdict, the Judge wrote an unusual thirty page document explaining the Court's reasonable doubt in the case. One line has become a rallying cry for the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### UM System Hosts Town Halls to Discuss Climate Survey Findings



Rankin and Associates presented their findings in J.C. Penney Summit Lounge.

KAT RIDDLER  
MANAGING EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY of Missouri System hosted several town hall events this week to discuss the results of climate surveys conducted by Rankin & Associates Consulting last October and November. Monday's town hall was at the University of Missouri-Kansas City campus, Tuesday and Wednesday it was at the UM System campus and the University of Missouri-Columbia campus, Thursday at the Missouri Science and Technology campus, and Friday was at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The 196 slide presentation and executive summary was available on the climate survey website after the town hall. The full report and UM System report will be available September 18.

UM System President Mun Choi sent out a system-wide email on September 11. His email stated, "While some of the findings will be very positive and encouraging, some of them will indicate what we can do as a community to improve our environments. This assessment provides us an opportunity to be forthcoming and transparent; build upon our strengths; develop a deeper awareness of those challenges; and inform our institutional policies and practices to ensure each member of

our community is respected, valued, safe and a vital part of a positive culture."

Rankin and Associates Consulting presented their UMSL findings

access to complete the survey. A climate survey was also conducted by UMSL and Missouri S&T in 2012 by the same company. UMSL had the same 11 percent participation rate



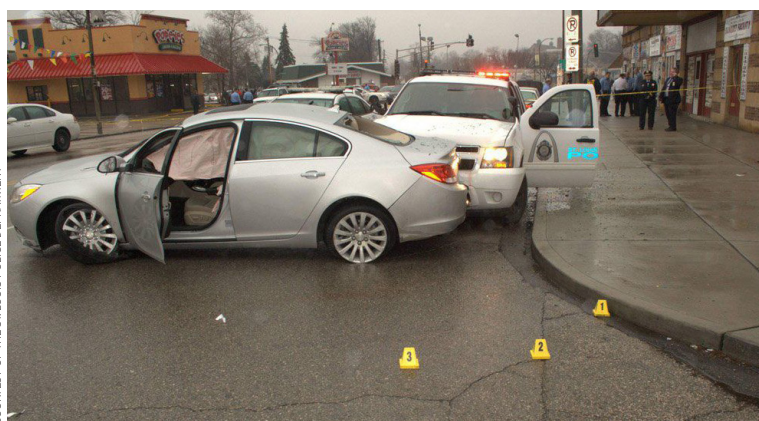
Emil Cunningham presenting the UMSL climate survey results.

at 10:30 a.m. in the J.C. Penney Summit Lounge. At UMSL, 11 percent of the total population participated in the survey. That means there were 1,495 students, faculty, and staff who went through the 120 questions based on their status and clicked the submit button in one sitting. The participant had to click submit with at least 50 percent completed for Rankin and Associates Consulting to count their responses. Participants could participate online or with a paper-based survey, to make sure a respondent's identity was protected as well as providing a way for those without computer

then as now.

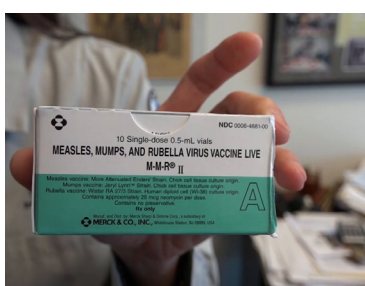
President Choi's statement continued, "Every voice in our University community is important, and your input matters to us. For that reason, I am encouraged by the progress we have made as a community. I am proud that our University community publicly renewed our commitment to free expression. The ability to freely express our opinions and discuss our ideas is fundamental to a free and open society, and will continue to serve as a strong foundation for our campuses to promote learning, research, and engagement."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Evidence photo from the 2011 murder case of former police officer Jason Stockley shooting and killing Anthony Smith.

### What's Inside:



Mumps on Campus, pg. 3



TWLOHA, pg. 4



Tritons Volleyball, pg. 6



Kaepernick, pg. 7



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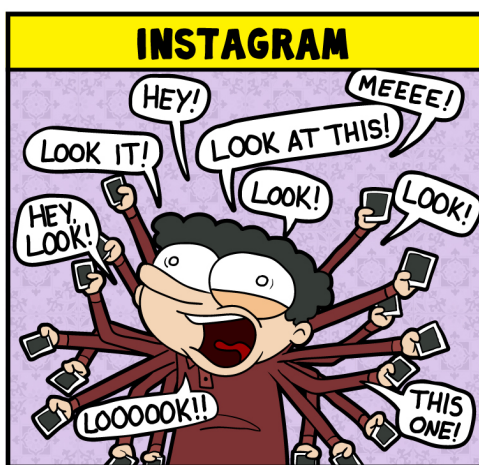
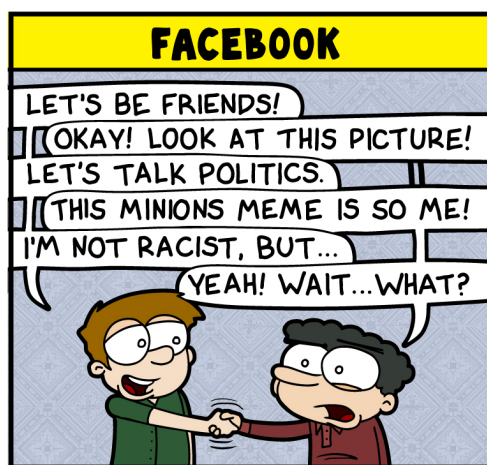
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ON THE QUAD BY MIKE DILIBERTO

## LinkedIn Lunch & Learn

September 20th, 12:30-1:30pm, Fireside Lounge (MSC)

Corporate recruiters share how they use LinkedIn to network, hire employees, interns, and how you can be next! Presented by UPB and Career Services.

NETWORKING + FREE FOOD

## Math Problem of the Week

No correct answers yet! Chicken McNuggets come in packages of 6, 9, and 20. What is the largest number of chicken McNuggets you **cannot** order from packages of 6, 9, and 20 McNuggets?



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

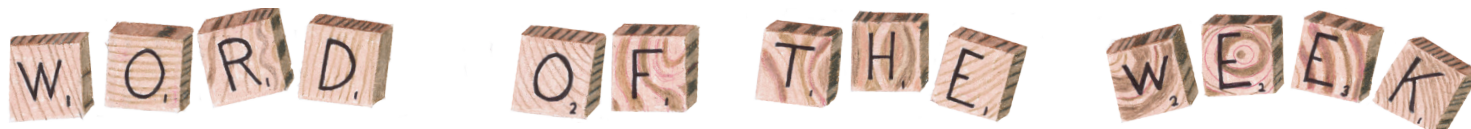
Email solutions to [coverttdj@umsl.edu](mailto:coverttdj@umsl.edu)



## SIGMA TAU DELTA

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY

PRESENTS



**Beneficent** (adjective): doing good; kindly in action or purpose.

*Beneficent members of the UMSL community will participate in The Big Event this Saturday, cleaning up litter and adding new plants to the Great Rivers Greenway.*



## HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

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MON 82  
68

TUE 85  
68

WED 90  
69

THU 90  
70

FRI 89  
68

SAT 89  
68

SUN 87  
67



# Mumps Confirmed on Campus

**KAT RIDDLER**  
MANAGING EDITOR

A CAMPUS-WIDE email was sent out on behalf of the University of Missouri-St. Louis' Student Health Officer, Christopher Sullivan, warning that mumps had been confirmed on campus on September 13.

Sullivan said that there was a possibility that people on campus have already been exposed to a person with mumps at UMSL as they have one confirmed case and two suspected cases. Sullivan explained the symptoms, "Mumps is a virus that causes painful swelling of one or more salivary glands, a low-grade fever, tiredness, muscle aches and/or headaches. Typically, persons with mumps have swelling of the gland located in the cheek area near the ear and at the back angle of the jaw. Some people with mumps do not have any symptoms."

Sullivan further explained, "Mumps is spread by coughing and sneezing or direct contact with the saliva of an infected person. Symptoms of mumps usually develop 16 to 18 days after exposure, but may develop from 12 to 25 days after exposure. Persons with mumps must

stay home and away from others for five days after the onset of salivary gland(s) swelling."

Mumps vaccines are usually administered to children at 12-15 months of age and the second dose at 4 to 6 years old. The vaccine is usually called the mumps, measles, and rubella vaccine (MMR). As with other vaccines, pregnant women or people that are immunocompromised should not receive the MMR vaccine. If unsure on your vaccine status, the email suggested contacting your healthcare provider.

Sullivan explained, "While vaccination against mumps is the best protection against mumps infection, vaccinated individuals may still become infected. Anyone diagnosed with mumps or suspected of having mumps should stay home for five days after the onset of symptoms."

The email urged UMSL students, faculty, and staff to contact Health Services at 314-516-5671 or their healthcare provider if they experience mumps symptoms or if they have any questions. A PDF informational sheet from the St. Louis County Public Health Fact Sheet was provided.

# Protests Erupt After Stockley Verdict Announced

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

demonstrators protesting the decision. "Finally, the Court observes, based on its nearly thirty years on the bench, that an urban heroin dealer not in possession of a firearm would be an anomaly."

Footage captured on a police vehicle dash camera of the defendant served as key evidence in the trial. The footage, released to the public, showed Stockley stating he would "kill this [expletive]." It also features several trips to and from the vehicle which the State point to as a possibility for a planting a weapon.

The case has continued to gain national attention with the hashtag #Stlverdict trending on Twitter.

The reaction to the shooting has paralleled other cases of police shootings of black men, such as of Philandro Castile, Tamir Rice, and most notably Michael Brown. The 2014 shooting of 18-year-old Brown launched the Black Lives Matter movement and spurred protests in Ferguson and across the nation.

Several events scheduled for the weekend have been rescheduled or cancelled, including 2017 Walk to End Alzheimer's and the 45th Annual Moonlight Ramble. The Great Forest Park Balloon Race and Balloon Glow carried on as scheduled.

An email sent by University of Missouri-St. Louis Chancellor, Tom George, to students and faculty Friday morning included the following statement: "...we are asking faculty to be flexible and make appropriate accommodations for students who have demonstrated obstacles to attending regular courses."

The statement continued, "We

have always been proud of the way in which the UMSL community responds to regional issues – providing professional support to those in need and a safe harbor for civil discussions of solutions. We fully expect that to be the case as the region debates the ramifications of the Stockley case."



Former police officer Jason Stockley.

COURTESY OF THE ST. LOUIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CAMPUS CRIME REPORT

**AUBREY BYRON**  
NEWS EDITOR

THE FOLLOWING is a series of daily crime and incident reports issued by the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between September 7 and September 13.

**September 7:** At 3:20 a.m. UMSL PD escorted two individuals from the Express Scripts Hall building after being found sleeping. At 5 p.m. UMSL PD assisted Residence Life checking the welfare of an UMSL student in Oak Hall. All was in order. At 6:27 p.m. a found driver's license in Oak Hall was turned in to UMSL PD. It was held for safekeeping.

**September 8:** At 8:08 a.m. an UMSL police officer traveling to Columbia initiated a traffic stop for careless and imprudent driving. At 4:17 p.m. UMSL PD and Northeast FD responded to a gas leak in Millennium Student Center caused by grounds crew striking a pipe. Laclede Gas responded and gas was shut off.

**September 9:** At 2 p.m. UMSL PD assisted Bel-Ridge with a loud party on Natural Bridge.

**September 10:** At 9:57 a.m. a found driver's license was turned in to UMSL PD. It was held for safekeeping. At 12:13 p.m. an UMSL student reported their parked vehicle was broken into. The student was advised to contact Normandy PD. At 1:43 p.m. an UMSL staff member was treated and released by paramedics after feeling nauseous in the Recreation and Wellness Center. At 8 p.m. an UMSL student notified UMSL PD of an ex-parte order. At

6:54 p.m. UMSL PD and Residence Life checked the building for a previous guest believed to have returned unregistered.

**September 11:** At 4:50 a.m. a non-affiliated person was transported to the hospital via ambulance for depression. At 10:05 a.m. UMSL PD and Northeast Fire Department responded to a fire alarm in Stadler Hall. The building was evacuated and the alarm caused by construction. At 12 p.m. an UMSL student reported a lost wallet containing a debit card and personal items. At 9:25 p.m. UMSL PD and residence life staff responded to a smell of marijuana.

**September 12:** At 10:44 a.m. a minor accident took place in Lot E between two vehicles. There were no injuries and only minor damage. At 12:35 p.m. a found wallet was turned in to UMSL PD. A student later retrieved it. A later report discovered unknown persons damaged basement area of Villa Hall between September 6 and September 12. At 8:05 p.m. a minor accident took place in West Drive Garage between two vehicles. There were no injuries and only minor damage. At 9:05 p.m. a found purse was turned in to UMSL PD. The owner was notified.

**September 13:** At 7:05 a.m. an UMSL student was transported to the hospital via ambulance after suffering a seizure. At 10:35 a.m. a minor accident took place in Lot JJ between two vehicles. There were no injuries and only minor damage.

# The Equifax Data Breach: What You Need to Know

**AUBREY BYRON**  
NEWS EDITOR

EQUIFAX, ONE of the largest credit reporting agencies, reported that it suffered a large scale data breach from mid-May to July. The breach, according to the company, could affect as many as 143 million users, meaning nearly half of the U.S. population. Many University of Missouri-St. Louis students will be among the affected.

The hackers accessed extensive personal information of consumers,

including names, social security numbers, birthdates, and addresses. People in other countries, like the United Kingdom and Canada, are affected as well.

To find out if your information has been compromised, consumers are encouraged to visit <http://www.equifaxsecurity2017.com/>. To see if your information may have been exposed, click on the "Potential Impact" tab. (First, make sure you are on a secure computer and network.) Consumers may sign up for one year of free credit monitoring to help

protect against hacks.

People who may have been affected should run a credit report and make sure no new accounts have been opened in their name. Consumers are also being encouraged to place a credit freeze or fraud alert on their credit. For more information on how to implement a credit freeze or fraud alert, contact a credit reporting company or your bank.

# OSI Column for September 18

THIS WEEK in the Office of Student Involvement:

- Student Government Association and UMSL Students Of Service bring you The Big Event! 2017, an effort to impact one place in the STL Metro in a big way with our service. On September 23 with Great Rivers Greenway and the City of Bridgeton Parks and Recreation Department. This community clean-up event will include planting a bioswale with native plants, removing invasive bush honeysuckle, and conducting litter pickup along the greenway. A light breakfast, lunch, and t-shirts will be provided. For those who registered after 9/13, shirt sizes will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. We will take group transportation. Learn more and register at <https://orgsync.com/59704/events/2022569/oc-currencies/4811921>. Questions? Contact Taylor Milon, Special Projects co-chair of UMSL SOS at [tmmvf2@mail.umsel.edu](mailto:tmmvf2@mail.umsel.edu).
- The UMSL Police Department will be mixing with students, staff and faculty on Wednesday, September 20, from 5 – 6 PM in Millennium Student Center, Century Room A. This UMSL Police Mixer is a part of Hazing Prevention Week, sponsored by UMSL Fraternity & Sorority Life. Join us and ask the Police Department questions on hazing prevention, what to do if you see hazing, and just get to know our friendly campus officers! Donuts and coffee will be provided!
- Todrick Hall Live! is coming to UMSL! Students – be sure to purchase your discounted tickets for the Office of Student Involvement Speaker Series: Todrick Hall Live!

Bring your UMSL ID to the Touhill Ticket Office to purchase your \$10 student ticket.

- Students are encouraged to sign up for the Leadership Diversity & New Member Institute, hosted by the Office of Student Involvement. The Leadership Diversity & New Member Institute is a one-day conference open to all UMSL students. The focus of this year's Summit is to engage and educate participants in the areas of diversity and social justice. Lunch will be provided. Learn more and register by viewing the calendar event on TritonSync.
- The Office of Student Involvement can be contacted at 314-516-5291 or [studentinvolvement@umsel.edu](mailto:studentinvolvement@umsel.edu).



# TWLOHA Places Flags on MSC Lawn to Heighten Student Suicide Awareness

**MICHAEL PLUMB**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**T**O WRITE Love on Her Arms (TWLOHA) is a student group at the University of Missouri-St. Louis that is fighting the suicide epidemic by raising awareness. This week TWLOHA was on the MSC bridge tabling to raise funds for treatment and therapy via the national nonprofit organization TWLOHA.

At the table students could take and make a (I WAS MADE FOR)

Flyer that would state what they were made for or something personally meaningful to them.

Along with tabling, they placed white flags on the Millennium Student Center lawn as part of Suicide Prevention Week. The 1100 flags placed were to represent the number of college age students lost to suicide each year. Students could write the names of loved ones on the flags.

There are a number of suicide prevention resources available nationally and through UMSL Coun-

seling Services. The crisis text line is a 24/7 crisis support line and can be used by texting "TWLOHA" to 741741. The suicide prevention lifeline is a 24/7, free, and confidential support for people in distress and can be used by calling 1-800-273-8255. The UMSL Counseling Services Office is located at 131 MSC and is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or you can call them at 314-516-5711.

**TO WRITE LOVE ON HER ARMS. UNIVERSITY CHAPTERS**



MICHAEL PLUMB/THE CURRENT

The flag demonstration was to represent the number of suicides that happen each



MICHAEL PLUMB/THE CURRENT

TWLOHA had a flag demonstration next to the MSC.



MICHAEL PLUMB/THE CURRENT

Katelynn Armstrong of TWLOHA on the bridge asking people to stay and fill out a flyer and flag.

## UM System Town Hall Focuses on Climate Survey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Total respondents were broken down as 34 percent (515 surveys) from undergraduate students, 19 percent (279) from graduate, professional students, and postdoctoral scholars, fellows, and residents, 21 percent (310) from faculty members, including administrators with faculty rank, and 26 percent (391) from staff, including administrators without faculty rank. Overall, 75 percent of students felt comfortable or very comfortable with the climate on campus. And 84 percent were comfortable or very comfortable with the classroom climate.

"That's high," Rankin Senior Executive Associate Emil Cunningham. "That's higher than what we find nationally, so something is going on in the classroom that works for students and faculty."

Cunningham continued, "The challenging part is to think about here is what is it like for those over 25% overall."

The study showed that 18 percent or 272 respondents indicated that they had personally experienced exclusionary (e.g., shunned, ignored), intimidating, offensive and/or hostile (bullied, harassed). Cunningham defined this as harassment and most harassment has been based on the position of where they sit at the university (student, faculty, staff). From the student perspective, the harassment was broken down between graduate and undergraduate students, faculty, and staff hourly and salary. For the most part, the survey found that harassment came from those within the same group. That is to say harassment would come from an undergraduate student against another undergraduate student. However, the graduate students had harassment issues coming

from faculty more than other students. Cunningham explained that is a problem since graduate students are usually working with faculty on research and continuing education career opportunities. Cunningham noted the graduate student population poll was small so it might be an anomaly that if more had filled out the survey then it might be like the other divisions.

Cunningham noted that there has only been two documented pieces of literature in higher education that has been published to draw comparisons to for the surveys the group facilitates. He pointed out that staff are the first people that interact with students on campus through financial aid, campus life, residential life, and more and if they are unhappy they might not be the best to recruit and retain students. Many staff concerns were related to being overworked and underpaid as many positions at UMSL were diminishing and consolidating under stricter budget allocations.

There were 262 respondents or 37 percent of employees who experienced financial hardship. Some of the concerning areas were affording housing, food, and professional development. The executive summary noted two challenges concerning the faculty. The summary stated, "One was the lack of 'significant' compensation in terms of salary for both Tenured/Tenure-Track and Non-Tenure-Track Faculty respondents. Faculty respondents were also concerned about the lack of professional development and advancement opportunities. They feared that budget cuts prevented them from being able to pursue the professional development opportunities that they felt that they needed in order to advance in their career."

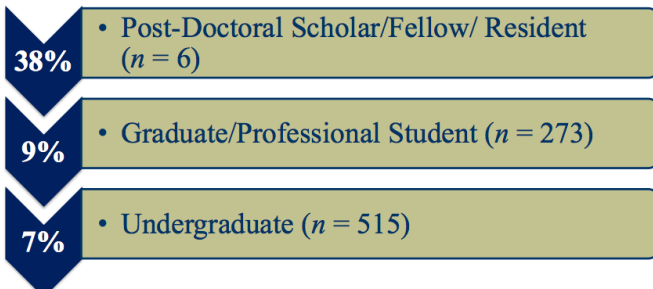
The survey found that 57 percent or 177 of Faculty respondents and 63 percent or 244 of Staff respondents have seriously considered leaving UMSL. The main reasons stated were the pay and compensation rate, institution support, and higher workload.

Chancellor Thomas George tried to explain during the question and answer portion of the town hall, following the presentation, that UMSL is the only campus out of the UM System that will have a merit pay system for this next year to accommodate pay raises.

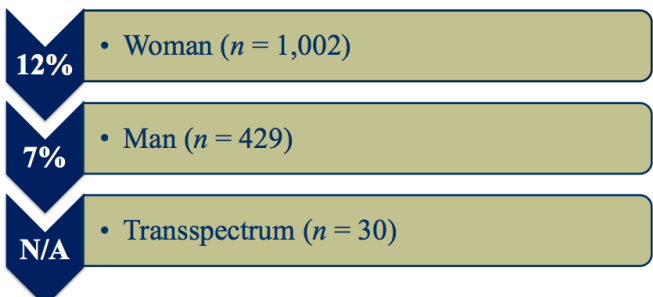
All information gathered will be the property of the UM System and each campus. Chancellor George said that the Chancellor's Cultural Diversity Council (CCDC) was charged with creating a task force to find solutions to challenges found in the last survey and they will be charged with the same task. The CCDC is a committee that is made up of students, faculty, and staff that focuses on fostering a campus and regional culture of inclusion where diversity of all types is embraced and recognized as the strength of the communities, state, nation, and world we live, work, and learn in. The committee was created in September 2004 on campus.

UMSL Daily provided information on some steps that are already underway or planned: Reorganization of offices of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Human Resources with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion concentrating on office promotion, training, consulting, and UM System initiatives like the Inclusive Excellence Framework project and UMSL has hired an LGBTQ coordinator with Gender Studies, and HR handles complaints and investigations related to discrim-

### Response Rates by Student Position



### Response Rates by Gender Identity



MICHAEL PLUMB/THE CURRENT

1) Response rates of the different student body position.  
2) Response rates from all participants broken down by gender identity.

ination, harassment, and Title IX. UMSL has also had a more balanced budget to have merit salary increases determined by new HR-driven formula factoring performance review and distance to position's mid point. UMSL had \$2.5 million set aside for the compensation increases and HR visited with each unit to calibrate performance reviews to enhance consistency and fairness across campus. There is also "One

Love," a film-based workshop that focuses on eliminating relationship abuse by educating students about healthy and unhealthy relationship behaviors.

President Choi's campus-wide statement ended, "Together, we can accomplish our goal of a stronger university system."



# ‘IT’ is Here to Try to Give You Nightmares

**MICHELLE REYNOLDS**  
STAFF WRITER

**B**E WARNED, if a clown named Pennywise -- or any clown for that matter -- is talking to you from inside a sewer, do not engage. There is a reason parents say “Don’t talk to strangers” and Stephen King’s “IT” is the perfect reason why.

Released September 8, “IT” is a movie about 7 young outcasts dubbed the “losers club” from Derry, Maine that face a shape-shifting evil that comes out of the sewers to terrorize their town and prey on children once every 27 years. Released 27 years after the “IT” TV series with the same premise, this movie has already broken some records with \$117 million in its opening weekend, making it the third highest opening weekend of 2017.

“IT” is an aesthetically beautiful movie. The cinematography took an ordinary small town and made it feel beautiful with the camera work. All of this was topped with a fitting score. This movie captures that pre-teen innocence, that child-like adventure. The banter between the main characters -- a group of kids -- is absolute perfection. This movie had audiences laughing more than one would expect for a horror movie and the acting from the kids was

so wonderfully believable that it did not even feel like acting, but as if we were watching this actually happen.

However, there were too many main characters to keep track of, so I left not knowing all of their names. But the ones I knew, I grew extremely fond of. In the length of this movie, the audience came to know those kids. We were with them through the whole experience and we left as part of the “losers club,” and, as one of the main characters, Beverly Marsh states, “hanging with you guys, I never felt like a loser,”

This movie explores each character so that you see their arcs and watch them grow. You see these kids fight and fall apart, only to form back together again. “IT” captures real life, friendship, and being a teenager in a way that not many others could. The movie is all so unbelievably real, it is as if you stepped back in time to when you were a teen and faced these same dramas, minus a scary clown terrorizing your town. “IT” is a movie about friends, bonding, and watching them come together to face their fears.

Based off of work by Stephen King, the master of horror, the expectations were set high. They were especially high since Bill Skarsgård, the actor who plays Pennywise the clown, even said that “IT” gave him

nightmares for weeks. Many people left with a fear of red balloons and clowns but this movie is not scary.

The supernatural genre is not for everyone and many claim that the scares were too often in-your-face to the point that it lost its appeal. Not only that, but the effects felt cheesy and childlike, which really killed the horror. What was surprisingly scary was the amount of intense bullying that takes place. The violence inflicted by the teens to other teens throughout the film was extremely graphic and more cringe-worthy than the horror of Pennywise the clown. Some claim that Pennywise was underutilized, that this film could have been scarier if they would have focused more on Pennywise instead of all the kids’ individual horrors.

This movie has more of a lingering terror. Initially, audiences might not be disturbed walking out the theater, but will feel it later that night when tucked into bed, all safe and snug. When you close your eyes and hear a squeak somewhere around your room, you won’t be able to resist hugging the blanket closer hoping it isn’t Pennywise.

This movie cuts to the chase, with very few scenes that lagged on. Everything had a purpose which is good considering this movie is long,



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Pennywise in Stephen King’s “IT” released September 8.

clocking in at 2 hours and 15 minutes. It feels every minute of it but you can’t be surprised considering the book was lengthy at 1,138 pages.

The book is spliced into two parts, one that features the losers club facing Pennywise when they are young kids and then again, 27 years later. The way this movie ended sets it up for a possible sequel featuring the kids grown up. Considering how well it is doing in theaters, it is likely people will be seeing more Pennywise in the future.

If you decide the movie is still too

scary to watch but you don’t want to miss out, you can read the book or view the leaked script for the movie online, which some claim is even more offensive than the movie.

Directed by Andy Muschietti who also did the 2013 horror movie “Mama,” “IT” is a good movie to see in theaters. The jumps, screams, and overall reaction of the audience around you helps heighten the experience, but “IT” is also the perfect movie to rent one rainy night with a bowl of popcorn and group of friends.

## Kendrick Lamar: the Greatest of Our Time?

**MIKE A. BRYAN**  
STAFF WRITER

**K**ENDRICK LAMAR’S name, face, and voice have become synonymous with today’s hip hop culture. He has guested on tracks and collaborated with basically every important voice in modern hip hop, R&B, and even rock, making him one of the most well-known figures in music today.

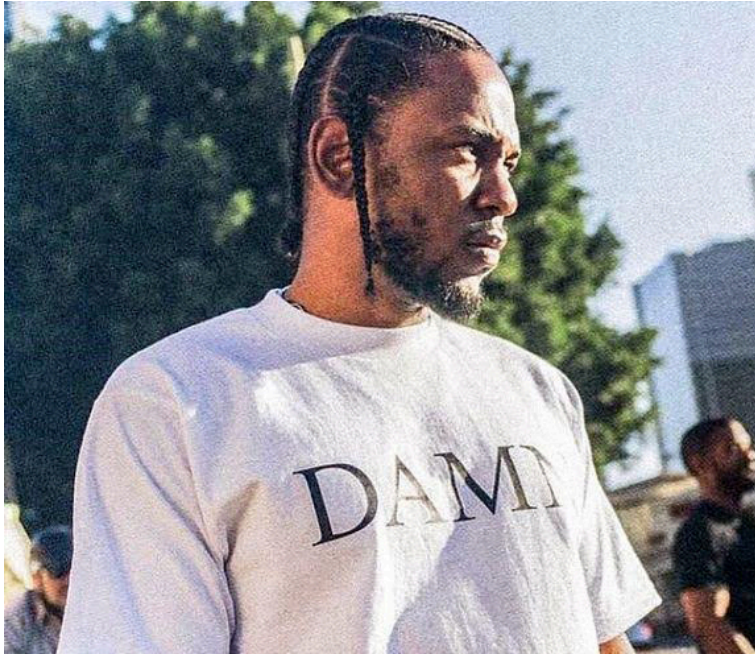
Hailing from the Compton area of Los Angeles, Lamar Duckworth started off his career with Top Dawg Entertainment at the end of the last decade, along with the other Black Hippy Collective members, including ScHoolboy Q, Jay Rock, and Ab-Soul. All four of the Black Hippy members have been named in the XXL “Top 10 Freshman class,” starting with Jay Rock in 2010, then Lamar a year later, and Ab-Soul and ScHoolboy following in 2013. By the third album, Lamar’s label TDE had partnered with Aftermath and Interscope, which helped propel him to mainstream popularity.

In 2010, K-dot released his first album, “Overly Dedicated.” Groundbreaking in many ways, his combination of dark and sensual jazz samples, raspy voice, and spoken word/poetic flow are featured prominently on this first album. A standout track is “The Heart Pt. 2,” which focuses on a stark personal reality: “We used to beefing over a turf, f\*\*\* beefing over a verse / N\*\*\*\*s dying, motherf\*\*\* a double entendre / And this is Comp-ton, lions in the land of the triumph.” Irony is also at work here, for Kendrick loves to use double entendre. Both Ab-Soul and ScHoolboy Q guest on tracks, along with lesser known Chicago-area R&B singers Jhene Aiko and BJ the Chicago Kid. Underground hHip hHop fans love his passionate, unique style, which

has grown and evolved in the years since.

“Section.80” was released the next year, and solidified his underground following with the release of his first major single, “Hiiiipower.” Lamar goes hard on the track, with multiple references to the Black Power Movement: “I be off the slave ship/Building pyramids, writing my own hieroglyphs,” showing his ability to take the power back.” This album doesn’t feature as many prominent guests, except for his labelmates, Ab-Soul and ScHoolboy Q. It is less darkly weird than the first, with a focus on real-life stories with which his audience can easily connect; solidifying his ability to connect with a large audience. Verses on this album vary from a plea to women to wear less makeup, to a manifesto titled “F\*ck Your Ethnicity,” to a dark and drug-influenced situation on “A.D.H.D.” The beats and production are still jazz-tinged, with nods to classic soul and funk as well.

Kendrick’s third album, “good kid, m.A.A.d city” bridges the gap between his underground following and mainstream fans. With multiple popular singles and guest spots by Dr. Dre, Drake, and his labelmate Jay Rock, “good kid, m.A.A.d city” serves as his first major-label release. Again, on this album, his verses run the gamut from inspirational and uplifting, to bleakly serious and tragic. “Bitch, Don’t Kill My Vibe,” “Poetic Justice,” and “Swimming Pools (Drank)” are certainly standouts on this album, with Dr. Dre’s contribution of “Compton” not to be overlooked. After only nine months, this album was certified platinum, a first for Lamar. No matter your age, race, religion, or sexual orientation, there is something moving and memorable to be found in the first three albums. But his fourth



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Lamar in a photo shoot to promote the album “DAMN.”

and fifth releases have truly solidified his following and brought him into mainstream popularity.

With the release of “To Pimp a Butterfly,” the fourth album, K-dot’s revolutionary and radical side emerges more strongly than ever before. Many of the songs are politically-charged, and he definitely has some important things to say about our modern American police-state: “Ain’t nothing new but a flow of new DemoCrips and ReBloodlicans / Red state versus a blue state, which one you governin’?” Artists Bilal, Anna Wise, and Thundercat are each on two songs on the album, with other tracks featuring George Clinton, Snoop Dogg, and one of the Isley brothers.

This album takes Lamar’s music from the underground to the forefront of hHip hHop in our time, and should be considered a classic hHip hHop album. Billboard critics commented at the end of the year, “Twenty years ago, a conscious rap

record wouldn’t have penetrated the mainstream in the way Kendrick Lamar did with ‘To Pimp a Butterfly.’ His sense of timing is impeccable. In the midst of rampant cases of police brutality and racial tension across America, he spews raw, aggressive bars while possibly cutting a rug.” This album garnered him numerous well-deserved Grammy awards, cementing his spot at the top of the rap game.

Amazingly, Lamar followed this groundbreaking album with another possibly classic hip hop work, “DAMN.” The politically-charged, revolutionary voice of the fourth album is still present here, but the album also showcases some true bangers, which have been heard on mainstream radio and in every club in the country. Rolling Stone called it a combination of “the old-school and the next-level.” The album title and song titles are all capitalized, contributing an aggressive, loud stance to the track listings.

Rihanna and U2 are the standout guests on this album, showing Kendrick’s versatility and continued willingness to experiment with his continually evolving sound. This album has also been certified platinum, and is still being played everywhere, months after its release.

For the true Lamar fans out there, another album/mixtape exists titled “untitled unmastered.” These tracks all have dates instead of names, most of which were recorded at the same time as “To Pimp a Butterfly.” The album has a lot of variety, with the same connecting themes that make the other albums stand on their own. No guests are credited on the tracks, but voices such as Cee-Lo Green and SZA can be heard. Some might overlook this album as demos and extra songs that were not good enough to be included on the fourth album; those people are missing out on another great piece of groundbreaking musical genius that nicely fills the gap between the fourth and fifth albums.

As mentioned earlier, Lamar is a member of a rap collective called Black Hippy. There are three other members, all signed to TDE as well; none of those rappers has risen to the level of K-dot. Not surprisingly, ScHoolboy Q, Jay Rock and Ab-Soul have some good music of their own, but most of their best tracks are collaborations with Lamar. We can only hope that the group will release an album of their own one day. Until that happens, we have one of the greatest rappers of all time, and definitely the best of his generation, to tide us over with amazingly thoughtful, provocative, deep, head-banging jams. Lamar deserves his Grammy’s, and will earn more as time goes on. hip hop heads eagerly await his next project.



# Tritons Take Down Undefeated Knights

**RODERICK M. WILBON**  
SPORTS EDITOR

ON SEPTEMBER 14th, the University of Missouri-St. Louis Triton Women's Volleyball team faced a huge opponent in the Bellarmine Knights at the Mark Twain Building. The Bellarmine Knights coming into this match were 8-0, while the Tritons were 7-1 on the season. This would be the Triton's first home game and first opportunity to hold home-court.

The teams both came out aggressive and ready for the challenge. Although the Tritons didn't start their most offensive set they were neck and neck with Bellarmine. Bellarmine had nice athletic players, especially their Libero Jordyn Kuchenbrod who wouldn't give up on any ball. The Triton's Libero Danielle Waedekin, senior, nursing, was just as great. The first set would continue like this, but at some point defense on one side had to weaken.

Coach Ryan Young made a switch late in the first set to put in Payton Kennelly, freshman, chemistry, Setter and Kylie Rudsinski, Sophomore, biology pre-med with minors in psychology and chemistry, Opposite Attacker/Outside Hitter. Things changed greatly with the two coming in as an offensive blitzkrieg unit. Rudsinski's presence was intense on the court, whether blocking an attack or getting a kill. The Tritons swiftly won the first set by 25-22.

In the next set the Knights switched their defense up to mark Rudsinski more. The Tritons seemed to take a little off the edge and relax in the second set. The Knights effectively shut out Rudsinski on attacks and after a few miscues from the Tritons took the second set by 21-25. The Knights seemed to have taken the momentum and coming into the third set looked very dangerous.

The third set marked the tone for the match. Triton's Head Coach Ryan Young really took a chess-like approach, switching the attacks up on the Knights more frequently. The Knights stayed strong but with attacks coming from every direction, even from Alex Miner, Junior, psychology, Middle Blocker, the Knights looked outnumbered and overpowered. Tritons took the set, 25-23.



Selena Nolte going for the spike.

The fourth set started the same way and the Knights seemed to charge back. Both teams were going point for point. Coach Young switched it up on the Knights again with threats of attacks and blocks. Fans could see it on the face of Rudsinski, this game was over and the Tritons were trying to put the Knights away. The fourth set would end on a block by Rudsinski and Amanda Vollmer, sophomore, nursing, Middle Blocker, sealing the Triton's win of the match, 25-22

"I felt that we were in control the entire time, we worked on keeping them out of their system," said Alivia Brinker, junior, biology pre-med with minors in chemistry and business administration. "We did our best not to hit the ball to their libero, she's a great athlete."

"Yeah, we got a little complacent in the second set, and we realized that after the set," said Kristen Radionic, senior, pre-physical therapy with a minor in psychology, Middle Blocker.

"It was a little stressful, we're two competitive teams and two really defensive teams with solid liberos. We regrouped after the second set, changed somethings so that Payton and Kylie could get some more kills across," said Head Coach Young. "The key in that third set was Alex Miner, I called a timeout and told the team get the ball to her and she put it away. Everyone stepped up and played their role well and that's what we needed tonight."



Tritons celebrating the win.

## Sports Calendar September

Friday, 9/22	5:00 PM
Women's Soccer	Home
Friday, 9/22	7:00 PM
Women's Volleyball	Away
Friday, 9/22	7:30 PM
Men's Soccer	Home
Friday, 9/22	All Day
Women's Tennis	Away
Saturday, 9/23	All Day
Women's Tennis	Away
Saturday, 9/23	3:00 PM
Women's Volleyball	Away
Sunday, 9/24	All Day
Women's Tennis	Away
Sunday, 9/24	12:00 PM
Women's Soccer	Home
Sunday, 9/24	2:30 PM
Men's Soccer	Home
Monday, 9/25	TBA
Women's Golf	Away
Tuesday, 9/26	7:00 PM
Women's Volleyball	Away
Tuesday, 9/26	TBA
Women's Golf	Away
Friday, 9/29	5:00 PM
Women's Soccer	Away
Friday, 9/29	7:00 PM
Women's Volleyball	Home
Friday, 9/29	2:00 P.M.
Men's Swimming	Away
Friday, 9/29	2:00 P.M.
Women's Swimming	Away
Friday, 9/29	7:30
Men's Soccer	Away
Friday, 9/29	TBA
Women's Tennis	Home
Friday, 9/29	TBA
Men's Tennis	Home
Women's Volleyball	Home
Saturday, 9/30	3:00 PM
Men's Golf	Away
Saturday, 9/30	TBA

# The Saint Louis Blues Have Started Training Camp

**RODERICK M. WILBON**  
SPORTS EDITOR

THE SAINT LOUIS Outlet Mall was the busiest it's ever been this weekend. The Saint Louis Blues held their Public Training camp this weekend at the Ice Zone. Over

five days, September 15th-19th, hundreds of fans have been showing up to root for and see their Blues on the ice. Everyone is coming out-men, women, and children. All the Blues players are out, minus Zach Sanford, who is ailing from a minor shoulder injury, Patrik Berglund and

Luke Opilka.

Even Robby Fabbri is back, who was sidelined last year with an ACL injury. The Blues look great in training, Head Coach Mike Yeo who will finally be the Head Coach for a full season is training them well. He has them skating hard, fast, and isn't letting up. Even Tarasenko who scored a goal in one of the drills was fired up as if in real competition.

There are five goalies on the training roster along with starter Jake Allen. We have Jordan Binnington, Evan Fitzpatrick, Ville Husso, Carter Hutton. The goalies looked great with Jake Allen looking the best and Binnington really close behind. Without a doubt, Mike Yeo, will have them ready for the preseason and the season.



Blues training scrimmage.



Jake Allen smiles for the fans.



# Kaepernick Shunned by NFL Teams After Protesting Police Brutality During Anthem

**KYLE MANNISI**  
OPINIONS EDITOR

**C**OLIN Kaepernick is just 29 years old, yet his athletic career has likely already reached its end. He didn't cheat, he did not take performance enhancing drugs, was not accused of any heinous crimes like domestic abuse or murder. Kaepernick simply sat on the bench, rather than standing during the playing of the national anthem, in silent protest against police brutality and racial injustice.

His actions went unnoticed for two preseason games, only gaining media attention when an unrelated twitter photo from a team reporter showed Kaepernick sitting during the anthem at the third preseason game of 2016. After the game he spoke with reporters, explaining that he is "not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color."

In the weeks that followed, teammates and fellow NFL players showed solidarity with Kaepernick by kneeling during the anthem, but not without rebuke from their sponsors. Brandon Marshall, a linebacker for the Denver Broncos, lost a sponsorship with CenturyLink and a Colorado credit union after kneeling during a regular season game.

Kaepernick is now a man with-



Colin Kaepernick kneeling during national anthems.

out a team: a free agent. In his most recent season he posted a 90.7 QB passer rating and threw 16 touchdowns with only four interceptions, despite being surrounded by the controversy of his protest all season long.

Marshawn Lynch, Cam Newton, Michael Bennett, and many other prolific NFL players agree that Kaepernick has the talent to win, but team owners are boxing him out because of his protests. Aaron Rodgers told reporters that it would be "ignorant" to believe that Kaepernick's unemployment had nothing to do with his activism.

Earlier this year, statistics web-

site "FiveThirtyEight" analyzed free agent data, concluding that "it's obvious Kaepernick is being frozen out for his political opinions," adding that it was "extraordinary... that a player like him can't find a team."

Jay Cutler, former quarterback of the Chicago Bears, signed a \$10 million contract with the Miami Dolphins in August. Cutler has not played a full season since 2009 and threw only four touchdowns in the 2016 season, and yet he still landed a position on a starting roster before Kaepernick did.

Not only is Kaepernick talented enough to play, he is popular enough, too. His 49er's jersey is

selling extremely well online, making him the only player on the top 50 that is not on a roster.

The NFL argues that Kaepernick's unemployment is justified, suggesting that his protests are too controversial for team owners to handle. This change of heart is surprising, considering previous years in which teams have happily awarded multi-million dollar contracts to convicted criminals with offenses ranging from animal abuse to domestic violence and rape.

The owner of the Philadelphia Eagles, Jeffrey Lurie, signed Michael Vick in 2009 after his 23 month prison sentence for running a dogfighting ring. According to Lurie, Vick's case is different because "there was a complete vetting of: 'How is he as a teammate? What is his character? What is his potential? What is his football intelligence? Can he be a backup?'"

Somehow, Kaepernick has not proven to Lurie that he meets these criteria. In 2016 alone, Kaepernick won a prestigious character award from his 49er's teammates and donated almost a million dollars of his own money to charities that fight oppression.

As an organization, the NFL is able to extract an obscene amount of wealth from the labor of black men, who make up over 70 percent of players in the league. It makes

sense for the NFL to try to silence Kaepernick. He threatens to weaken their grip on their most profitable employees.

The only thing that is keeping Kaepernick off of a professional football team is his activism on behalf of people of color, simply stated. Kaepernick by all accounts, is a genuinely good guy, yet the NFL and team owners have vilified him for standing up for what he believes in. Many players who have done heinous things have gotten their misdeeds swept under the rug and given the chance to play for the NFL, yet Kaepernick is being boxed out.

Many players have joined his protest, and owners are scared that he might inspire even more athletes if they give him back his platform.

The Baltimore Ravens have recently shown a small amount of interest, but Kaepernick has likely played his last game in the league. He seemed to acknowledge this, as early as the first time he was asked about his protests. Despite the possible consequences, Kaepernick dug in, saying "If they take football away, my endorsements from me, I know that I stood up for what is right."

Kaepernick's conviction and termination will land him in museums and history books, and it will not have anything to do with a touchdown.

## The Political Divide: Where Are the Moderates?

**CHRIS ZUVER**  
A&E EDITOR

**T**HERE IS a simple, yet complicated reason that people disagree: we are all different. We come from various upbringings, faiths, sets of values, and cultures. What we gather from these life-shaping experiences often determine what we think to be correct, at least for a time.

But when it comes to politics, there only seems to be two sides. Yet, most of us, it seems, fall somewhere in-between these two sides. However, the media and other social outlets have continuously catered toward certain ideals and we've seen two sides of the political spectrum continue to divide over time.

In recent months, we have seen major news outlets like CNN, MSN-BC, and the New York Times cater toward the left. They write up editorials denouncing the president and focus on every bit of negative evidence against him as well as the right. Extreme left advocates call the Republican Party and those they don't agree with racist, homophobic, and fascist.

Meanwhile, sources like Fox and the Drudge Report continuously cater toward supporters of the President and focus on the far-left extremists. They conflate anyone on the left as "liberal" or "leftist." Far-right advocates label the Democratic Party as "socialists."

The division of the two political wings once came down to a few simple disagreements about the economy and social issues, but nobody wants to hear that these days. At least the opinion-leaders don't. And that's what scares me. As the radicalization of the narrative continues, we are hearing more and more stories pushing a division.

The media is quick to point out the appearance of white supremacists, Neo Nazis, and the KKK, as we saw recently at the Charlottesville protests. They covered the violence that broke out between both sides, however, they tended to remain quiet about the left-wing radical group Antifa, who also arrived at the scene, ready for action.

During a press conference about infrastructure last month, President Trump was asked about the violence and responded that violence



Charlottesville "Unite the Right" rally.

came from "many sides" in the conflict. After being pressured from both political parties to address the white nationalist groups more directly, he spoke again two days later, denouncing the KKK, Neo Nazis, White Supremacists, and said that "racism is evil." Yet, the next day, while responding to reporters, he doubled-down on his first statement, saying, "I think there's blame on both sides...I've condemned many different groups, but not all of them were Neo Nazis."

While all of this is happening, media outlets continue to put their

spins on the coverage. CNN's hard article on Trump's comments leads with a neutral title: "Trump says both sides to blame amid Charlottesville backlash," but then begins to paint the President in a negative light by describing the conference as "staggering" and claims that he equates "the white supremacists on one side with the 'alt-left' on the other side."

So, the media doesn't seem like they'll be stopping their war with the right and the Trump administration. But neither does it seem that Trump and the right will stop dou-

bling down on the "fake news" label.

In a world of perpetually-dividing narratives, we see less and less of the moderates. What's truly sad is that there are so many people who have nuanced views but are afraid to speak about them. On top of that, people continue to hold their opinions without wanting to open discussion with those that may disagree with them. Discussion and debate is undervalued and often ignored. If nobody will reach out, then we really are divided.



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# Nintendo Showing Promise as it Doubles Down on Third Party Games

CHRIS ZUVER  
A&E EDITOR

ON SEPTEMBER 13, Nintendo released its online presentational video, Nintendo Direct, announcing several new games, updates, and accessories planned to release in the coming months. Fans hopes were riding high, hoping to hear more about third party games, details on the previously announced “Metroid Prime 4,” and info on the soon-to-be-released “Super Mario Odyssey.”

While some of these hopes were not met, the overall collective of announcements from the Big N were more than satisfactory. The Direct, hosted by Deputy General Manager, Yoshiaki Koizumi, began with announcements for Nintendo’s portable 3DS console.

Starting off, Nintendo appealed to one of their strongest customer bases: the Pokemon fans. “Pokemon Ultra Sun” and “Pokemon Ultra Moon,” will be the second installment in the seventh generation of the series. They will be similar to the original Sun and Moon, but will feature alternate storylines, new Pokemon to catch. The two games will launch on November 17.

Kirby fans will be happy as well. “Kirby Battle Royale” will release on January 19 of next year. The game will feature several multi-player mini games as well as a single player story mode. Additionally, in celebration of the franchise’s 25th anniversary, Nintendo is holding a poll for fans favorite copy ability at kirby.nintendocom/poll.

One of my personal favorite series from Nintendo has always been the Mario Party games and that is mostly because of the addictive minigames that it’s known for. Well, apparently either Nintendo read my mind or others think like me, because at the Direct, they announced “Mario Party: The Top 100,” which will include—you guessed it—the top 100 ranked mini games from the extensive series. It launches on November 10.

While there was ultimately no talk of “Metroid Prime 4,” we did see a release date for “Metroid: Samus Returns,” which is a remake of the GameBoy classic, “Metroid II: Re-



Several different games on the Nintendo Switch.

turn of Samus.” The game released on Friday, September 15.

As for third party games, there was no short supply on the 3DS. RPG fans will have plenty to work with in the near future. Developer Atlus announced that in early 2018, they will be releasing “Alliance Alive,” “Shin Megami Tensei Strange Journey Redux,” “Radiant Historia: Perfect Chronology,” and “Etrian Odyssey V: Beyond the Myth,” on the 3DS. And while those titles are about a memorable as a trigonometry lecture, all of the aforementioned games look visually pleasing and appealing to traditional RPG fans and will certainly provide hours of gameplay.

Speaking of third party games, Mojang will finally release “Minecraft” for Nintendo’s handheld. Other titles mentioned include “Apollo Justice: Ace Attorney,” release date in November, and “Fire Emblem Warriors,” release date October 20.

Now, as for the Switch, which has become the company’s star console, outpacing the 3DS in sales, there were some tremendous announcements made.

First off, let’s talk about third party games. The long-awaited Nintendo edition of Bethesda’s “Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim” was given a release date of November 17. The Switch version will feature items from “Zelda: Breath of the Wild” such as the champion tunic, Hylian shield, and master sword. All of these can be unlocked from using certain Zelda Amiibos or you can find them somewhere in the vast world of the game.

Bethesda also announced that they would be releasing both of the latest installments of two legendary first-person shooter series: “Doom” and “Wolfenstein II: The New Colossus.” These two titles, along with Skyrim, may prove to be strong unit

shifters for the Switch.

Speaking of first-person shooters, “Morphie’s Law,” a title by imprint Cosmospice, was announced. In it, you play as armed robots who are in a fire fight. When your avatar shoots another, whichever body part is struck will shrink, while your avatars same body part will grow. The goal is to have the largest player by the end of the round. The game will release this winter.

As for sports fans, they will have a variety of titles including “NBA 2K18,” eShop September 15 and retail September 18 release date, “WWE 2K18,” no release date set, and “FIFA 18,” release date September 29.

A Square Enix title appeared in the announcements as well. The tentatively-titled RPG “Project Octopath Traveler” was explored more in-depth since its announcement at E3 earlier this year. The game will

give you the option of playing as one of eight characters and features 16-bit era graphics and a visual style that the developers refer to as “HD-2D.” A demo was released on the Nintendo Switch eShop on the day of the announcement and the full game will be out sometime in 2018.

Another RPG, “Xenoblade Chronicles 2” will be out on December 1. The massive RPG/adventure looks visually stunning with a large world and deep story line. Alongside the base copy of the game, there will also be a special edition including a CD of the soundtrack, a metal game case, and a 220-page hard-bound art book.

Another strong and successful title, “Pokken Tournament DX,” the Pokemon-Tekken crossover, will come to the Switch on September 22. There’s also a demo available for download right now. Fan-favorite “Splatoon 2” will also be having some downloadable updates soon, including new weapons and levels.

Another noteworthy mention was Nintendo’s announcement of its “Arcade Archives” program. The throwback program will have strong appeal to retro gamers as Nintendo will be unveiling classic games from their arcade era in the coming months. Games announced include “Vs. Super Mario Bros.,” “Vs. Balloon Fight,” “Vs. Ice Climber,” and the previously Japanese exclusive “Vs. Clu Clu Land.” The series will start with a release of “Mario Bros.” on September 27.

And as for Mario, there was one more announcement that fans knew was coming. Of course, Nintendo waited until the end to address the elephant in the room - or maybe I should say dinosaur, if the E3 trailer was indicative of anything. “Super Mario Odyssey” was discussed in much more detail this time around. Mario’s animated cap is named Cappy, who he teams up with on a mission to stop his arch-nemesis Bowser from marrying Princess Peach. The game will take place in several sandbox levels, meaning there will be a ridiculous amount of exploring to be done.

As Mario travels from locale-to-locale, he will man his air-

CONTINUED ONLINE

## Fry-Yay and Frisbees Offered Fries, Sauce, and Frisbees

MICHAEL PLUMB  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Free Fun Fridays continued this month with Fry-Yay and Frisbees in the Nosh of the Millennium Student Center. Everyone could pick up a frisbee with fries and one

sauce on September 15. The event was from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The initiative is to help have more students, faculty, and staff on campus on Fridays. The next Free Fun Friday is October 13 called Fear-some Fry-Yay. The event advertises to join them on a spooky, scary, superstition filled day.



Fry-Yay event in the Nosh of the MSC on Friday.